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PAGE 48 SITUATION(S) MESSAGE(S) LISTING DATE 06/20/74//171

SITUATION: HAK TRIP
SUBJECT CATEGORY: TOHAK II

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

IMMEDIATE

O 132134Z JUN 74

FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK77//

TO ROOMAN FOR GEN. SCOWCROFT
JANKA FOR RON ZIEGLER

UNCLAS WH41869

TOHAK77

JUNE 13, 1974

FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

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BY SHARON BAILEYFORMER ATTY. GEN. ELLIOT RICHARDSON SAYS HENRY KISSINGER
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TO THE PRESS ON "PERHAPS A HALF DOZEN" OCCASIONS WHEN HE
WAS THE NATION'S HIGHEST FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL.BUT HE NEVER REQUESTED WIRETAPPING AS PART OF ANY SUCH
INVESTIGATION, AND TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THE FBI DID NOT USE WIRE-
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***** WHSR COMMENTS *****

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OF MY HONOR" BY ALLEGATIONS THAT HE RECOMMENDED WIRETAPS ON 13 AIDES AND FOUR JOURNALISTS FROM 1969 TO 1971 IN AN ATTEMPT TO PLUG LEAKS OF "SENSITIVE DOCUMENTS" TO THE PRESS. KISSINGER HAS TESTIFIED THAT HE NEVER RECOMMENDED THE FBI-INSTALLED WIRETAPS.

ASKED WHETHER HE THOUGHT THE WIRETAPS HAD BEEN JUSTIFIED, RUSK SAID, "I DON'T KNOW THE CIRCUMSTANCES SO I REALLY COULDN'T COMMENT. I DON'T KNOW TO THIS MINUTE WHAT LEAK THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT IN REGARD TO MR. KISSINGER."

RUSK SAID "IN GENERAL" HE "ABHORS" WIRETAPPING TECHNIQUES, BUT THERE "COULD BE CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVING NATIONAL SECURITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY" WHICH MIGHT JUSTIFY SUCH SURVEILLANCE.

AT ANY RATE, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN LEGAL FOR KISSINGER TO SUGGEST SUCH ACTION AND THE FINAL AUTHORIZATION HAD TO COME FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR PRESIDENT, RUSK ADDED.

THE FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE, IN A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW FROM HIS UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA LAW SCHOOL OFFICE, ALSO SAID KISSINGER HAS "DONE A VERY VALUABLE JOB" AND OUGHT NOT RESIGN.

RUSK, RECALLING HIS OWN EXPERIENCES WITH THE PRESS DURING HIS EIGHT YEARS AS HEAD OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID HE "NEVER FELT ALL THAT UPTIGHT ABOUT LEAKS."

FOR THE SOME HALF-DOZEN FBI INVESTIGATIONS INTO SUCH LEAKS THAT HE REQUESTED, RUSK SAID, IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT "PERSONAL INTERVIEWS AND INTERROGATIONS" WERE USED RATHER THAN ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE.

"IN GENERAL I ABHOR WIRETAPPING TECHNIQUES AND AS FAR AS LEAKS ARE CONCERNED THEY DON'T WORK ANYWAY," THE EX-CABINET OFFICIAL ADDED. "THERE ARE TOO MANY WAYS TO LEAK, SO WIRE TAPPING WON'T STOP IT."

A WIDE VARIETY OF SOURCES--RANGING FROM DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO EMBASSY ROW TO THE WHITE HOUSE--MAY LEAK INFORMATION AND SOME "LEAKS" AREN'T THAT AT ALL, BUT ASTUTE REPORTERS FIGURING THINGS OUT FOR THEMSELVES, RUSK SAID.

RUSK SAID HE WAS OCCASIONALLY ANNOYED BY A LEAK BUT ONLY ONE CONTINUES EVEN NOW TO ANGER HIM.

THAT WAS HIS COMMENT, LEAKED BY A STILL UNKNOWN PERSON, DURING THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS IN 1962 THAT "WE ARE EYEBALL TO EYEBALL AND THE OTHER FELLOW JUST BLINKED."

THAT LEAK COULD HAVE ENDANGERED NATIONAL SECURITY BY ADDING TO THE DANGEROUS TENSION EXISTING BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE USSR AT THAT TIME, RUSK SAID.

THE FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE TESTIFIED BEFORE SEN. EDMUND MUSKIE'S FOREIGN RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON WIRETAPPING VIS-A-VIS TRACKING NEWS LEAKS ABOUT A MONTH AGO.

HE TOLD THE SENATORS THE SAME THING HE SAID WEDNESDAY-- THAT HE NEVER REQUESTED WIRETAPS IN AN ATTEMPT TO RUN DOWN

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NEWS LEAKS.

BUT RUSK DID NOT DISCUSS WITH THE SUB-COMMITTEE,
 AND DECLINED TO DISCUSS WEDNESDAY, THE USE OF WIRETAPPING
 AS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S REGULAR "ESPIONAGE AND COUNTER-
 ESPIONAGE" ACTIVITIES.

BUT HE TERMED IT "IMPORTANT" FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO BE
 ABLE TO NEGOTIATE WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS "UNDER CONDITIONS
 OF CONFIDENTIALITY, YOU DON'T EXPOSE ALL YOUR CARDS AT ONCE."

WIRETAPPING ASIDE, MOST STATE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ARE
 SCREENED REGULARLY BY THE FBI BECAUSE THEIR JOBS ARE SENSITIVE
 AND "SECURITY AND LOYALTY" ARE IMPORTANT, RUSK ADDED.

EVEN HE AND HIS PREDECESSOR, DULLES, WERE INVESTIGATED
 BY THE FBI AS PART OF THIS ROUTINE SCREENING, RUSK SAID,
 ADDING THAT HE NEVER SAW HIS FILE. "I NEVER ASKED FOR IT,
 I NEVER CARED ABOUT IT."

DURING HIS TENURE, MOST EMPLOYEES WERE SCREENED BY THE
 FBI BEFORE GOING ON THE PAYROLL AND THE INVESTIGATION WAS
 UPDATED EVERY FIVE YEARS, HE EXPLAINED.

RUSK SERVED AS AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
 FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS UNDER THE TRUMAN ADMINISTRATION.

ABOUT THREE MONTHS AFTER JOHN FOSTER DULLES TOOK OVER
 AS SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION,
 "I WAS CALLED IN MY OFFICE BY AN FBI MAN WHO WAS INVESTIGATING
 MR. DULLES" AS PART OF THE SCREENING, RUSK RECALLED.

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Authority **ED12958**
By **MMNARA** Date **4/10/07**

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